

Application Serial No. 10/533,766  
Docket No.: 26281-09B

Art Unit: 3609  
Examiner: E. Culbreth

**REMARKS**

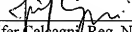
This Amendment is being filed after the Notice of Allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment merely corrects formal matters and does not change the scope of the claims in any way and does not require any substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment does not require any additional searching or examination.

The present Amendment amends the disclosure in the first line of the application as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a) to claim priority to the international application. Applicant included the benefit claim in the application by providing it in the declaration as originally filed and within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 1.78(a). Therefore, a petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a) and the surcharge under 37 CFR 1.17(i) to correct the claim is respectfully submitted to not be required, as the information concerning the claim was recognized by the Office as shown by its inclusion on the filing receipt.

Based thereon, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Jennifer Calcagni, Reg. No. 50,207  
Carmody & Torrance LLP  
50 Leavenworth Street  
P.O. Box 1110  
Waterbury, CT 06721-1110  
(203) 575-2648